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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Huat et al.  
Serial No. : Not assigned  
Filed : Herewith  
For : A STRESS-FREE LEAD FRAME

Box PATENT APPLICATION  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Specification**

Please amend the specification by adding as the first section of the specification on page 1 the following new section:

**Related Applications**

This application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 from Malaysian patent application serial number PI 20004237, filed September 13, 2000.

**In the Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

3.(amended) A stress-free lead frame (1) as claimed in Claim 1 further characterised by said plurality of stress-relief means (15) being holes and slots.